

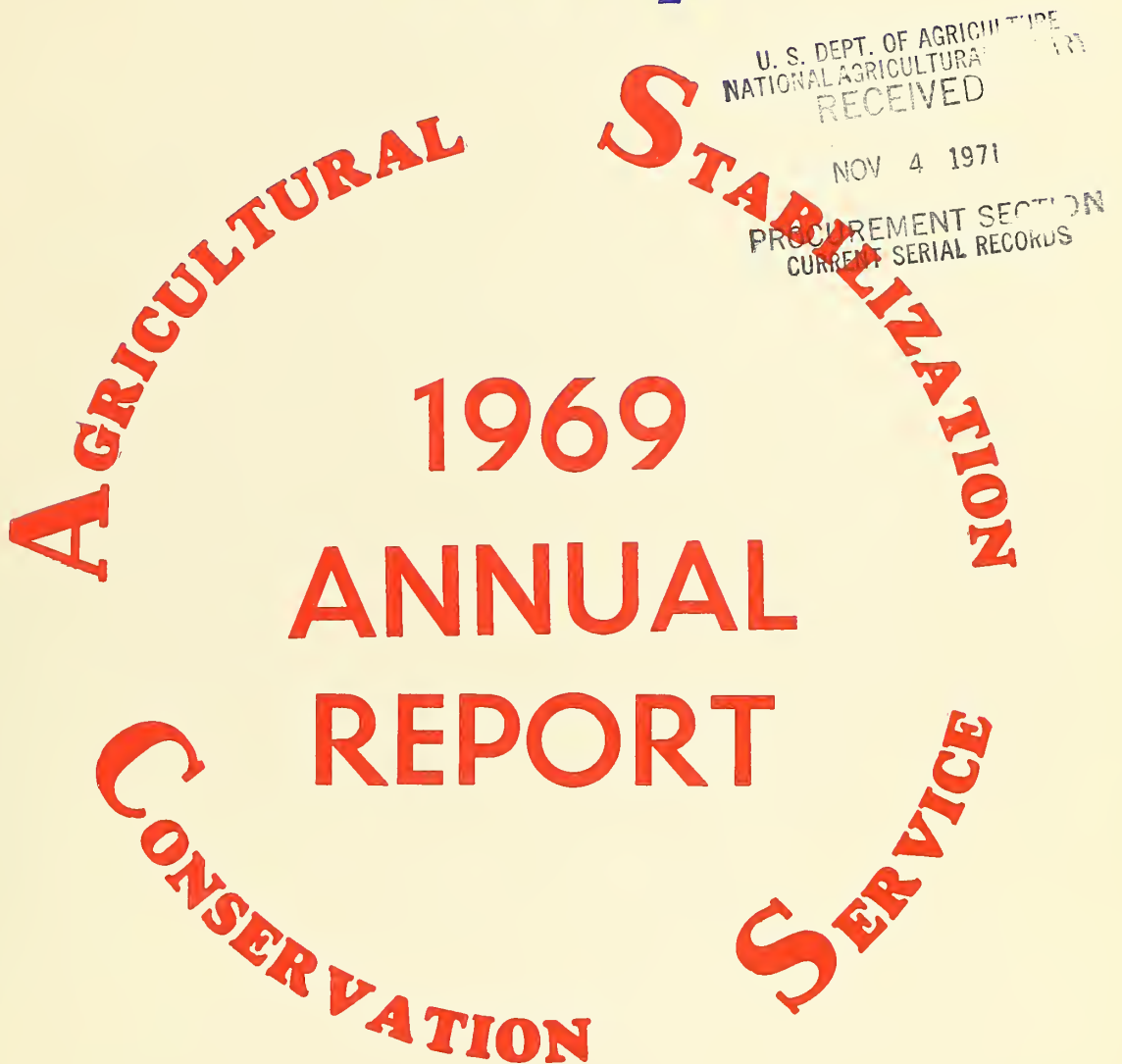
## **Historic, Archive Document**

Do not assume content reflects current scientific knowledge, policies, or practices.



A281.9  
S+16  
Copy 2

# Pender - New Hanover County



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Burgaw, North Carolina 28425



## F O R E W O R D

This Annual Report is prepared, published, and distributed by the Pender-New Hanover County ASC Committees and office personnel. The purpose of this report is to furnish farmers, businessmen, and all interested persons of Pender and New Hanover Counties, a summary of our ASCS activities for the year 1969. This report is prepared for the purpose of familiarizing the public with programs which the ASCS administers, and some of the accomplishments of each program.

To administer the Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Program successfully the cooperation of the farmer is needed, in addition to the united efforts of the National Office, State Office, and County Office. The County ASCS office is responsible for field administration and keeping the farmers informed of all changes in the administration of the program.

The Pender ASCS County Office is located in the county seat, Burgaw, North Carolina, at the corner of Bridgers and Walker Streets. A sub-office is maintained in Wilmington, North Carolina, located in the Post Office Building at Front and Chestnut Streets. Our office hours are from 8:00 a. m. to 5:00 p. m., Monday through Friday.



# TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Page
ADMINISTRATION	
General .....	1
County Committee .....	2
Pender-New Hanover ASCS Organizational Chart .....	3
Compliance Personnel .....	4
Community Committeemen .....	5
AGRICULTURAL CONSERVATION PROGRAM	
General .....	6
COMPLIANCE	
General .....	7
CONSERVATION RESERVE PROGRAM	
General .....	8
INFORMATION .....	9
PRICE SUPPORT	
General .....	10
Farm Storage Structure & Drying Equipment Loans .....	11
Summary of Storage Structure Loans Disbursed .....	11
Summary of Drying Equipment Loans Disbursed .....	12
Summary of Farm-Stored Commodity Loans Disbursed .....	12
PRODUCTION ADJUSTMENT	
General .....	13
Tobacco .....	14
Cotton .....	15
Peanuts .....	16
Wheat .....	17
Feed Grain .....	18
Cropland Adjustment Program .....	19
Cropland Conversion Program .....	19
APPRECIATION .....	20





## A D M I N I S T R A T I O N

Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service, or ASCS, is a branch of the United States Department of Agriculture, and is responsible for administering farm programs enacted by Congress and regulated by the Secretary of Agriculture. The programs administered by the Pender-New Hanover County ASCS Office in 1969 included the Agricultural Conservation Program, Conservation Reserve Program, Cropland Adjustment Program, Cropland Conversion Program, the Price Support Program, Production Adjustment Program, and Compliance.

The State ASC Committee is composed of five members who are appointed by the Secretary of Agriculture. The State Committee is responsible for ASCS policy determination at the state level. State ASCS offices are operated by state executive directors. Representatives from the state offices, known as farmer fieldmen, serve county offices by districts. These men serve as liaison for state and county offices through their guidance on technical problems.

County ASCS offices are under the direction of managers who are hired by farmer-elected county committees. Elections are held annually for the purpose of electing a three-man committee to serve for the entire county, and a three-man committee to serve for each ASCS community in the county. Pender-New Hanover County consists of 16 communities.

The County Committee and community committeemen are called upon continuously to furnish assistance on farm problems to their neighbors although they receive compensation for the actual time worked in an official capacity.



## C O U N T Y C O M M I T T E E

The purpose of the county committee is to direct the administration of all ASCS programs, inclusive, of the Soil Conservation and Domestic Allotment Act of 1936, the Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1938, the Sugar Act of 1948, the Soil Bank Act and any amendments to such Acts, and such other acts of Congress as the Secretary of Agriculture or Congress may designate. The county committee is assisted by the community committee and other personnel employed by the county committee in carrying out the duties of ASCS.

People elected community committeemen elect each year the county committee composed of three regular members and two alternate members.

### COUNTY COMMITTEE

#### PENDER

Jack M. Woodcock  
Roy M. Thomas  
DeLeon Fennell

#### NEW HANOVER

John H. Covil  
Albert D. Cox, Jr.  
M. S. Emmart

### ALTERNATES

#### PENDER

Wiley Batson, First  
James V. Eakins, Second

#### NEW HANOVER

C. E. Rivenbark, First  
J. D. McCarley, III,  
Second

### DISTRICT FARMER FIELDMAN

J. N. Bryan, Jr.



1 9 6 9   O R G A N I Z A T I O N A L   C H A R T

C O U N T Y   C O M M I T T E E

PENDER COUNTY

Jack M. Woodcock . . . . .Chairman  
Roy Thomas . . . . .Vice-Chairman  
DeLeon Fennell . . . . .Regular Member

NEW HANOVER COUNTY

John H. Covil . . . . .Chairman  
Albert D. Cox . . . . .Vice-Chairman  
M. S. Emmart . . . . .Regular Member

C O U N T Y   O F F I C E   P E R S O N N E L

Casper Wells	Manager
Elizabeth H. Batson	Chief Clerk
Floyd W. Dale	Compliance Supervisor
Elsie J. English	Counter Clerk (ACP, CR)
Della Mae Herring	Program Clerk
Florine W. Howard	Program Clerk (PA)
Betty R. Lewis	Compliance Clerk
Willa C. McGugan	Program Clerk
Goldie P. Marshall	Program Clerk
Lucille P. Rivenbark	Head PA Clerk



C O M P L I A N C E   S U P E R V I S O R

Floyd W. Dale

R E P O R T E R S

William H. Jordan

Horace Vernon Pigford

Howard N. Walker

William W. Hill

Millard Clark Murray

Robert Lynn Roberts

Thomas Edward Torgersen





1969 ASC COMMUNITY COMMITTEEMEN

BURGAU UPPER

Thomas Cowan  
S. J. Harrison  
W. R. Covil

BURGAU LOWER

Wiley Batson  
Jerry Fedoronko  
John Leimone

CANETUCK

R. E. Moore  
B. Z. Corbett  
Pete Pridgen

CASWELL

James V. Eakins  
Elmer A. Holly  
Edmond Woodcock

COLUMBIA UPPER

Lewis T. DeBose  
Edward Moore  
J. Harry Gurganious

COLUMBIA LOWER

George Highsmith, Jr.  
Joab F. Johnson, Jr.  
C. D. Kelly

GRADY

Mack L. Bell  
L. H. Caison  
Fred P. White

HOLLY UPPER

Fred Harrell  
Jasper Pierce  
Major Meadows

HOLLY LOWER

Arthur Sawyer  
H. L. Saunders  
A. T. Tatum

LONG CREEK

Herbert Wagstaff  
Howard Peay  
John T. Peay

ROCKY POINT

R. L. Batts  
Charlie McLendon  
Richard Brickhouse

TOPSAIL UPPER

Robert A. King  
William G. Edens  
Woodie Batts

TOPSAIL LOWER

T. W. Shingleton  
Neil Thomas  
James W. Piver

UNION UPPER

J. A. Farrior, Jr.  
Armenius Pigford  
W. C. Heath

UNION LOWER

Currie T. Carr  
Oliver Pate  
R. E. McCoy



## AGRICULTURAL CONSERVATION PROGRAM

The soil and water resources of the farm and ranch lands of our Nation must be protected and conserved. This is essential in order that farms and ranches will continue to have the capacity to produce sufficient food and other raw materials to meet the future needs of the Nation.

All the people of this Nation, not the farmers and ranchers alone, have a stake in and a part of the responsibility for protecting and conserving our farm and ranch lands. Recognizing this, the Congress appropriates funds to share with farmers and ranchers the cost of carrying out needed soil and water conservation measures. The Agricultural Conservation Program is the means of making this Federal cost-sharing available to farmers and ranchers.

Productive soil, adequate water, and well-managed woodland are the very foundation of American agriculture. The Agricultural Conservation Program is the means through which all our people including farmers, share the costs of conserving these essential national resources. This program increases the rate of application of the research, education, technical, credit, and other services of the Department of Agriculture in actual accomplishment of essential conservation work on the land.

Pender-New Hanover County's allocation for the 1969 AC Program was \$42,435. Of this amount, \$2,017 was transferred to the Soil Conservation Service, \$118 to the Forest Service to pay for the technical services performed for the Pender New Hanover County AC Program. The farmers used approximately \$33,644, which represents 420 farms taking advantage of the AC assistance.



## C O M P L I A N C E

Compliance is one of the most important functions of ASCS. In 1967 a relatively new method of compliance was used in Pender County. This method of compliance was used also in 1968 and 1969. This method was known as Compliance by Certification by the farm operator. All farmers who had allotment crops or were participating in any of the farm programs were required to determine their acreage and report them to their local ASCS office during the specified period. May 31st was the final date for wheat, and June 20th for other crops and land uses in Pender and New Hanover Counties.

Regulations require that a minimum of 25 percent of all crops and land uses be measured. Also, all farms operated by County and Community Committeemen and office personnel were required to be measured.

Before measurement can be started, reporters have to be secured and thoroughly trained. For the compliance activities for 1969, a total of 8 reporters were employed.

### DATA FOR 1969

Staking and Referencing Service.....243

Measurement Service..... 11

### REGULAR COMPLIANCE PERFORMED

Name of Crop	No. of farms that Certified	No. of farms measured
Wheat-Feed Grain	1314	402
Cotton	92	28
Flue-cured Tobacco	996	272
Peanuts	128	44



## CONSERVATION RESERVE

### GENERAL

ASC committees administer the remaining phase of the soil bank program - the Conservation Reserve Program. This consists of servicing existing contracts, since 1960 was the last year of accepting additional land under the program.

This program was designed to retire cropland from production for a period of years and to conserve and build soil. It was installed as a temporary measure to store up potential productive resources that will be badly needed in a few years and to help reduce the temporary surpluses in certain commodities. Through the program, farmers are paid an annual payment of the acreage put in reserve and also receive payment for part of the cost of putting the land to a conservation use. A producer signed a three, five, or ten year contract.

If a satisfactory cover crop was growing on the land designated as the conservation reserve, it could be signed up for a three year period. However, if it was necessary for the Government to assist the producer in establishing a satisfactory cover crop, the minimum number of years he might place the land in the conservation reserve was five. If he desired to plant trees, it was necessary for him to sign a ten-year contract.

In addition to the objective of assisting in controlling the production of specific agricultural commodities determined to be in surplus supply, this program has as its further objective to conserve our natural resources and provide farmers an opportunity to place all of their eligible cropland in this program and retire or seek off-the-farm employment.

There were 21 contracts for the year 1969. These producers retired 490 acres of cropland and received annual payments of \$7,211.

All Conservation Reserve contracts expired in 1969.





## I N F O R M A T I O N

Public relations is a very important phase of our work and we are ever conscious of the good that can be accomplished through public relations.

During the year of 1969, in addition to directly administering the farm programs of the United States Department of Agriculture, the Pender-New Hanover County ASCS Office has endeavored to tell the people what we have done, how we have done it, why it was necessary and what benefits have been obtained. The county committee, community committeemen, and office personnel do everything within their power to keep all farmers currently advised on the programs administered by ASCS.

During the year of 1969, the Pender-New Hanover County ASCS Office mailed out newsletters, made spot announcements over Radio Station WPGF, in Burgaw, and presented TV programs over Station WECT TV in Wilmington. In addition, the Pender Chronicle published 43 news releases in 1969.

By endeavoring to maintain good public relations, we feel that we have accomplished one of our main objectives.



## PRICE SUPPORT

Government price support programs are administered by ASCS to aid the farmer in obtaining a fair price for what he produces and to promote orderly marketing.

ASCS county offices are authorized to make warehouse and farm storage loans, as well as enter into purchase agreements with eligible producers of grains. Price support was made available to eligible farmers during 1969 on the following commodities: corn, cotton, cottonseed, barley, grain sorghum, oats, rye, honey, peanuts, soybeans, tobacco, wool, and wheat.

Only producers participating in the feed grain program were eligible for price support loans and purchase agreements on feed grains.

The price support program on cotton is carried out by ASCS through the making of warehouse stored loans to eligible producers. Loan documents were prepared by approved loan clerks or ASCS county offices. Most loans were disbursed by county ASCS offices.

Peanut support is available through loans made by the Commodity Credit Corporation to cooperative associations of farmers and also through direct loans to peanut producers. The 1969 crop of peanuts was supported by a national average of \$247.50 per ton. Virginia-type peanuts were supported at \$257.00 per ton in 1969. This is the variety most commonly grown in Pender and New Hanover Counties.

Tobacco support is available through tobacco loans made by the Commodity Credit Corporation to cooperative associations of farmers which, in turn, make advances to eligible producers either directly or through auction warehouses. In 1969 the flue-cured tobacco crop was supported at an average of 63.8¢ per pound.

Any farmer desiring to receive price support for storage of commodities, must provide adequate and acceptable storage for the commodity either on the farm or in an approved commercial warehouse. Some farmers miss the advantage of price support because they do not have adequate storage. If farmers have adequate storage they may obtain price support loans which will enable them to take advantage of any price increase. In a number of cases income is increased above that which would have been received had the commodity been sold on a usually depressed market at harvest time.



## FARM STORAGE STRUCTURE AND DRYING EQUIPMENT LOANS

Since 1949 ASCS county offices have operated a loan program on storage and drying equipment. This program is to help farmers provide for storing commodities to be placed under price support. Loans are made available to producers to finance the purchase of farm storage facilities and drying equipment. The maximum amount that can be loaned on needed farm storage is 85 percent of the cost. On drying equipment the maximum amount that can be loaned is 65 percent of the cost of applicant's needed drying equipment, or \$2500, whichever is lesser.

There is no service fee for either type loan. Each type loan is repayable in four installments over a five-year period. The first payment is due one year after the date of disbursement of the loan. No insurance is required, but the borrower is responsible for any loss that occurs.

### SUMMARY OF STORAGE STRUCTURE AND DRYING EQUIPMENT LOANS DISBURSED

January 1, 1969

December 31, 1969

### FARM STORAGE STRUCTURE LOANS

1. Number of loans disbursed during period	<u>8</u>
2. Capacity of loans during period	<u>37,700</u>
3. Amount of loans disbursed during period	<u>\$ 15,607</u>



DRYING EQUIPMENT LOANS

1.	Number of loans disbursed in 1969	<u>12</u>
2.	Amount of loans disbursed in 1969	<u>\$ 45,673</u>

SUMMARY OF FARM-STORED COMMODITY  
LOANS DISBURSED

January 1, 1969

December 31, 1969

<u>COMMODITY</u>	<u>NUMBER OF LOANS</u>	<u>BUSHELS</u>
Corn	6	15,788
Soybeans	9	36,767





## PRODUCTION ADJUSTMENT PROGRAMS

### GENERAL

The Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1938, as enacted on February 6, 1938, contained the first authorization for our present acreage allotment and marketing quota program. The Act authorizes acreage allotments and marketing quotas on wheat, tobacco, cotton, peanuts, and rice. Prior to 1959, the Act also permitted acreage allotments on corn. However, as a result of the Agricultural Act of 1958 and a vote by farmers in the commercial corn area, acreage allotments and a commercial corn producing area were not established for 1959 and subsequent crops of corn.

Acreage allotments and marketing quotas were designed as a means of keeping supplies of agricultural commodities in line with demand. Marketing quotas must be approved by at least two-thirds of the growers voting in a referendum before they may be placed in effect. Marketing quotas are administered by use of farm acreage allotments; however, acreage allotments are required by law for some commodities even though marketing quotas are not in effect. This is necessary in order to determine the farm's eligibility for price support when quotas are not in effect.

Acreage allotments and marketing quotas are administered as follows:

1. The Secretary of Agriculture determines the amount of cotton, tobacco, peanuts, wheat or rice needed and proclaims this as the quota or allotment.
2. This amount is divided among the states and counties generally on the basis of the past history of growing the commodity.
3. Each farmer receives his share of the national quotas as an acreage allotment based on the production history of the farm.
4. The farm operator is required to stay within all allotments established for his farm.
5. A marketing card is issued to identify the commodity when the farmer goes to market.



## T O B A C C O

Pender-New Hanover County had 1698 farms in 1969 with an established flue-cured tobacco allotment. Total allotment on these farms was 2977.28 acres. There was no change in the allotment for 1969.

We had one farmer in our county who filed an application for a new grower allotment for tobacco for the year 1969. This farm met the eligibility requirements for a new grower allotment and an allotment was approved in the amount of 0.64 acres.

The Lease and Transfer Program for tobacco was still in effect for 1969. A written request signed by all interested parties had to be filed with the county committee by April 1, 1969. We had 669 farmers who took advantage of this lease and transfer program in 1969, leasing a total of 821.44 acres, which was moved to 353 other farms in the county who had requested this leased tobacco to be moved to their farms.

The Acreage-Poundage Program was approved by growers in a referendum in July of 1967 for the 1968, 1969, and 1970 crops of tobacco. Under this program a farmer is limited to the pounds established for his farm as well as the acreage allotted. Each farm has a marketing quota established for his farm based on the yields for his farm for the five years 1959-63. The total for our county for 1969 was 5,271,053 pounds. This does not include the over and under marketing pounds.

Under the Acreage-Poundage Program if all the pounds are not sold, the farm receives credit for this undermarketing and this can be sold the next year. We had 400,824 pounds undermarketed in 1969. On the other hand, a farm was allowed to sell up to 10 percent above the established marketing quota if he desired. This overmarketing is taken from the marketing quota for the next year. We had 49,846 pounds overmarketed in 1969.



## C O T T O N

In 1969 we had 103 farms with a cotton allotment, as compared to 105 farms in 1968. Total allotment on these farms was 264.4 acres. Our cotton allotments have been reduced both in size and in number of farms due to our farmers failing to plant. According to the cotton marketing quota regulations, farmers must plant or release their cotton each year in order to maintain their full allotment.

There was a Cotton Domestic Allotment Program available to farmers in 1969. Farmers were eligible to receive a price support and diversion payment by signing up to participate in this program. The price support payment was paid to farmers for the cotton they had planted. We had 60 producers to sign up under this program, receiving a total payment of \$3675.

We did not have any cotton farms remaining in excess of their allotment in 1969.

A Cotton Referendum was held from December 2-6, 1968, to determine whether farmers favored marketing quotas for the 1969 crop of cotton. Quotas were approved in the referendum and therefore were in effect for the 1969 crop. There were 77 of our farmers who voted in the referendum. Of these, only eight voted against marketing quotas for the 1969 crop. Fifty percent of our eligible producers voted in the referendum. Also, in a referendum held by mail from May 5 through May 9, 1969, farmers voted against transferring cotton allotments outside the county. Seventy-seven of our cotton farmers voted in this referendum.



## P E A N U T S

For the year 1969 we had 221 farms with an established peanut allotment. Total allotment on these farms was 1504.3 acres. Although peanuts are an allotted crop, any producer may plant up to 1.0 acre without being penalized, providing he does not share in peanuts on any other farm. We had very few farmers to take advantage of this privilege in 1969.

If a producer does not want to plant his peanuts he can release them to the county committee to be reapportioned to other farms in the county. None of our farmers participated in the release and reapportionment program in 1969.

The lease and transfer program was still in effect for 1969, which permitted farmers to sell or lease their allotment to other farms in the county. We had 46 farmers taking advantage of this program. Five of these farmers sold their allotment to be transferred permanently. Acres sold amounted to 17.5. Forty-six farmers leased their peanut allotment to other farms in the county on a temporary basis, in the amount of 273.6 acres.

Peanuts are considered one of the basic cash crops in our county. In 1969, there were 1149.0 acres of peanuts harvested. Total production from this acreage was 1,912,052 pounds, resulting in a yield per acre of 1664 pounds. This compares with a yield of 1534 pounds per acre in 1968.

No requests were made in 1969 for a new grower peanut allotment.





## W H E A T

Pender-New Hanover County had 376 farms with an established wheat allotment for the year 1969. The total allotment for these farms was 1099 acres.

Marketing quotas were not in effect for the 1969 crop of wheat. Therefore, farmers could plant as much wheat as they wanted without paying penalty on wheat planted above the wheat allotment established for their farm.

We did not have any producers requesting new grower wheat allotments for the year 1969.

The 1969 Wheat Program was a voluntary program whereby the farmers who produced an acreage of wheat within their farm allotment could receive a price support payment for wheat planted on 43 percent of the wheat allotment.

The principal objectives were: (1) To raise the income of wheat growers; (2) To avoid increases in the government costs of wheat programs; (3) To maintain the costs of wheat to flour millers and other processors at a level which will not increase the price of bread to consumers; and (4) To enable the United States to participate in the International Wheat Agreement.

Pender-New Hanover County had 161 producers with effective allotments of 404 acres participating in the 1969 Wheat Program. Diversion payments of \$6,871 were made to producers for diverting 338 acres. Price support payments of \$1,192 were paid to farmers for planting 55.0 acres of wheat.



## FEED GRAIN PROGRAM

The 1969 voluntary feed grain program was designed to reduce feed supplies in order to strengthen prices. Three feed grains -- corn, grain sorghum, and barley -- were in the acreage diversion program for 1969.

The past two years have been notable for good crop weather and improved cropping practices both at home and abroad, with resulting worldwide increases in grain production. Needs of importing countries have been less, and exporting countries have had more to offer.

But despite dramatic increases in feed grain yields in the United States, acreage diversion programs in the last 2 years have put a brake on domestic production and have helped keep carryover of feed grain stocks near needed reserve levels.

Principal program benefits were (1) price support loans, (2) price support payments, and (3) payments for additional diversion. Producers could participate in the 1969 program by reducing their total acreage of corn, grain sorghum, and barley by at least 20 percent below their farm's feed grain base. Acreage could be diverted from any one or a combination of these crops -- with the price support payment determined by the crops planted.

Feed grain bases were established on 2270 farms in 1969. The total base allocated to these farms was 24,843 acres. There were 1184 farms with bases of 15,208 acres participating in the 1969 Feed Grain Program. These farms signed up to divert 12,201 acres from the production of feed grains.

Total diversion payments earned were \$557,236. Price support payments totaling \$53,076 were paid farmers for planting 2215 acres of feed grains.



### CROPLAND ADJUSTMENT PROGRAM

The Cropland Adjustment Program began in 1966, authorizing the Secretary of Agriculture to enter into agreements with farmers to divert cropland normally used for the production of feed grain, allotment and non-allotment crops to conserving and recreational uses.

The period of agreement is for 5 to 10 years. Farmers may receive cost-share payments for establishing an approved conservation or recreation practice. Annual adjustment payments are made each October for acreage placed under agreement.

The designated acreage must be maintained for the duration of the agreements to prevent erosion and control weeds and insects. No crops may be planted for harvest or harvested on the designated acreage. All allotment crops and feed grain bases for the farm under agreement must be in compliance as well as all other farms in which the producer has an interest.

In 1969, 82 annual payments were made, which amounted to \$25,715.

### CROPLAND CONVERSION PROGRAM

The Cropland Conversion Program began in 1966, with the same rules and regulations as the Cropland Adjustment Program, except that the farmer may graze the designated acreage with a reduction in the annual adjustment payment.

In 1969, 4 annual payments were made which amounted to \$1,587.



WE WISH TO EXPRESS OUR SINCERE THANKS AND APPRECIATION TO:

Pender County Board of Commissioners and taxpayers of Pender County for our conveniently located office.

State Office personnel who have been so cooperative and understanding in connection with our work and our many problems.

Our District Fieldman, Mr. J. N. Bryan, Jr., for his helpfulness, patience, and understanding.

Community Committeemen for their loyalty, cooperation and advice.

The Pender Chronicle for relaying to the public ASCS articles and news.

Radio Station WPGF and TV Station WECT for their cooperation and covering of our programs.

Other agricultural agencies for their unselfish cooperation in helping to make our program a success.

Vendors and others who have cooperated so faithfully and generously.

And last, but by no means least, to the farmers of Pender-New Hanover Counties for their fine spirit of cooperation during 1969. We believe the understanding and public relations between the ASCS office and farmers of Pender and New Hanover Counties are unmatched.

Pender-New Hanover County ASC Committees  
and Office Personnel

ORIGINAL ARTICLES	1
REPORTS	1
EDITORIAL	1
DEPARTMENTS	1
SYMPOSIUM	1
CLINICAL REPORTS	1
OBITUARY	1
NOTES	1
LETTERS TO THE EDITOR	1
BOOK REVIEWS	1
ADVERTISEMENTS	1





